



Christmas is a time of remarkable generosity. God gave the most generous gift of all when he sent Jesus to us as a baby. It's also the time when friends and neighbours who don't normally come to church will do so. Here you'll find suggestions, along with signposts to resources, to help visitors experience the joy of generosity this year, whether that is in giving, receiving, or both.

# Making giving easy

People appreciate the church being open at Christmas and want to give, but many of us are out of the habit of using cash and may be 'caught short' at collection time. If you don't have any form of digital giving, you might want to think about some of these suggestions ([this short video summarises the three ways to encourage generosity this Christmas](#)):

## 1. Set up online giving

[Parish Buying](#) offers an affordable and simple online giving service called Give A Little which gives people the opportunity to give to your church via your website. There's [plenty of guidance](#) and [step-by-step videos to help you get set up](#). Once you've set up your online giving page either on your church website or on A Church Near You, you can share the link to the page widely.

## 2. Try a QR code

If you have a Give A Little online giving page, you can [create a QR code](#) that sends givers to your giving page. When you're logged in to that page on the Parish Buying website, instructions for generating a QR code can be found under Step 3.

QR codes are images that, when scanned on a phone or tablet, take a person directly to a website page. They are easy to use and people are becoming more comfortable using them as they appear in restaurants and on trains. Once you have created your QR code, you can add it to anything you print such as a pew card, an order of service or Christmas cards. You can also display it on the screen if you are streaming your service.

## 3. Go contactless

There are a range of [contactless units](#) available on Parish Buying to suit the different requirements of churches. As well as giving people the opportunity to make a gift, they are useful for making donations for candles or refreshments – in fact anything where cash would have been used a few years ago.

## Making 'Give a Little' look festive using Canva

If you use Give a Little on your contactless device and like using Canva, you might want to download one of the templates below to make your device seasonal. Using the Church of England Christmas graphics ([click here for other resources in the range](#)) and with space to personalise the template, you can instantly make your device much more eye-catching and festive:

[Christmas 2023 CollecTin/Payaz graphics](#) (canva.com)

[Christmas 2023 CollecTin/Payaz graphics \(Web\)](#) (canva.com)

[Non-animated Christmas 2023 CollecTin/Payaz graphics \(Web\)](#) (canva.com)

### Downloads/videos to help you get started:

[How to edit and download a Canva file \(download in Word\)](#).

[Watch the supporting video for this file.](#) (opens in Vimeo)

[How to create a Christmas App Campaign \(download in Word\)](#)

[Watch the supporting video for this file](#) (opens in Vimeo)

### Regular updates

You can have [regular updates on digital giving with this email newsletter](#).

## Free Generosity logo to download



Feel free to download and use this winter-themed Generosity logo on any of the materials you produce to encourage a generous church [this](#)

season.

[Download the image here](#) - open the link then right-click on the image and choose 'Save image as' in order to save it into your own files.

## Ensuring our welcome is warm

It's a great feeling to see people come to church at Christmas and to know that Christ is still a key part of their celebrations. But in 2023, with the cost of fuel and just about everything else increasing daily, it's that bit more challenging to live a mindset of plenty and not one of scarcity.

While holding onto the spiritual truth of abundance, there are still things we can do to ensure we steward our resources carefully. [Heating your church this winter](#) brings together resources to help parishes manage their heating bills. This includes a really helpful [booklet of Practical Tips](#), written by the Cathedrals and Church Buildings Division. It contains 12 pages of 'quick wins' that don't cost a lot or need an engineer to implement.

## More resources for Christmas

See resources for the Church of England's Advent and Christmas campaign for 2023 - [Follow the Star: Join the Song](#)

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